

SACRAMENTO REPORT

Narcotics Still Poses Problem in California

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL Assemblyman, 46th District Thomas C. Lynch, Attorney-General of California, has issued a series of publications titled "Drug Arrests and Dispositions in California." Incidentally, Attorney-General Lynch was formerly District Attorney of San Francisco County, but when Governor Brown appointed the last previous Attorney-General Stanley Mosk, to the State Supreme Court, Brown filled the vacancy by appointing his long-time friend, Lynch, Attorney-General. Thomas C. Lynch has had experience.

to the California State Rehabilitation Center for treatment. The courts have made it very clear that the California Rehabilitation Center is not a penal institution, but if the narcotic addict escapes activities, he is not fully "cured," he is referred to as an "outpatient" with certain conditions imposed for his own good. If he fails to abide by those terms, he can be returned to the Rehabilitation Center the same as a person who has been paroled from jail or prison.

or some other procedure for enabling people to reform themselves, statistics can be misleading.

IT IS AN old adage that "figures do not lie but liars can figure." Translated into statistics on narcotic addiction, a sudden wave of arrests, trials, and criminal conviction rising out of narcotic addiction may mean one of three things. First, there may be a "crime wave" in reality. Second, there may be more law-enforcement officers transferred to anti-narcotic details from other duty. Third, offenses rising out of narcotic addiction but not previously reported may cause an appearance of increased addiction.

It would be extremely foolish to underestimate the clear and present danger of narcotic addiction in California. The citizens of California can be justly proud of the fact that California does have one of the best records in America for laws and law enforcement in this field. This is true at all levels—city, county, and state, out the State Legislature is not standing still. During 1966 we will attempt to improve our existing laws and procedures, for the good of the people in general, including the unfortunate and tragic victims of the vicious trade in narcotics.

Diabetes Group Slates Meeting Tuesday Night

Members of the South Bay Chapter of the Diabetic Association will meet Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Hawthorne Memorial Center, 3901 El Segundo Blvd.

Miss Melly Sorensen, clinical dietitian at Wadsworth Veterans Hospital, will speak on the subject of diet for diabetic persons.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program.

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The latest annual report on drug arrests and dispositions includes indirect praise for a law which I introduced as an Assembly Bill, commonly called the "Nalline" test law. Since Governor Brown signed the bill into law, the Governor often receives credit for it, which is satisfactory with me.

Narcotic users under probation or parole supervision are forbidden to use any form of narcotics, but weekly are injected with Nalline as a test to determine if illegal drug usage has been resumed. They must submit to the test or face violation proceedings. Some suspected drug addicts, not known to have previously used heroin or other opiates, are administered Nalline on the theory that should they begin illegal narcotic use it will be detected.

THE INJECTION of Nalline is done by a Doctor of Medicine, who can determine in a relatively short period of time whether or not the person injected has been using narcotics. The person under probation or parole supervision can refuse to have the Nalline injection, but if he does, his probation or parole is cancelled by court order, and he returns to jail or prison from whence he came.

A narcotic addict may be committed in a civil action

THERE ARE at least two well recognized separate and distinct philosophies regarding narcotic addicts. One philosophy holds that he is an unfortunate fellow or a sick man who must be treated like a man with an illness, protected from himself, and at the same time prevented from "spreading" his addiction to others. The misdemeanors and felons he commits under this philosophy are sometimes regarded as of secondary importance and his drug addiction is assumed to be his primary problem. Sometimes this is called the "sick man theory."

The above philosophy did not come into existence in California until 1961. Prior to 1961 all narcotic addicts were considered as criminals, but in 1961 we enacted the necessary laws and appropriated enough funds to establish the California State Rehabilitation Center program. Personally, I believe that the money was well spent.

In judging the efficiency of any rehabilitation program, whether it is a narcotic addiction rehabilitation plan,

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